

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A non-woven fiber assembly comprising one or more fibers wherein ~~the fibers contain~~ each fiber contains:

~~an adhesive component; a hydrophilic component; and~~

~~an elastomeric component, and~~

~~a hydrophilic component~~

wherein the non-woven fiber assembly further comprises an adhesive component.

2. (original) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1, wherein the assembly is capable of adhering to a dry substrate and is not capable of adhering to a wet substrate.

3. (original) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1, wherein the assembly forms a component of a medical dressing.

4. (currently amended) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1, wherein the adhesive component is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ homo- and co-polymers of acrylates, silicones, polyvinylpyrrolidones, and mixtures thereof.

5. (currently amended) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1, wherein the elastomeric component is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ polyurethanes, polyesters, polyanhydrides, polyamides, polyimides, and mixtures and co-polymers thereof.

6. (currently amended) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic component is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ linear poly(ethylenimine), grafted cellulose, poly(ethylene oxide), polyvinylpyrrolidone, polypropylene-oxides, polyurethanes, poly(hydroxyethyl methacrylate), and mixtures and co-polymers thereof.

7. (original) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1, wherein the composition of the one or more fibers at a first surface of the assembly is different from the composition of the one or more fibers at a second surface of the assembly.

8. (original) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one fiber has a diameter of between about 3 nanometers and about 3000 nanometers.

9. (currently amended) A method of making a non-woven fiber assembly, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one fiber-forming material; and

forming at least one fiber from ~~said~~ the at least one fiber-forming material, and

wherein the at least one fiber forming material comprises a hydrophilic component, an elastomeric component, and an adhesive component, and wherein each fiber contains a hydrophilic component and an elastomeric component, and optionally contains an adhesive component ~~an elastomeric component, and a hydrophilic component.~~

10. (currently amended) The method of ~~making a non-woven fiber assembly according to~~ claim 9, wherein ~~said~~ the one or more fiber-forming materials is provided in a solvent, and wherein ~~said~~ the solvent is selected from the group consisting of alcohols, ethyl acetate, acetone, and tetrahydrofuran.

11. (currently amended) The method of ~~making a non-woven fiber assembly according to~~ claim 9, wherein the relative amounts of ~~said~~ the adhesive component, ~~said~~ the elastomeric component, and ~~said~~ the hydrophilic component varies over time, thereby producing a fiber assembly in which the composition of the one or more fibers at a first surface of the dressing differs from the composition of the one or more fibers at a second surface of the dressing.

12. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient comprising:
applying a non-woven fiber assembly of claim 1 to a predetermined area of the patient, ~~wherein the non-woven fiber assembly contains one or more fibers comprising an adhesive component, an elastomeric component, and a hydrophilic component.~~

13. (currently amended) An apparatus for forming at least one composite fiber, wherein the apparatus comprises:

a plurality of reservoirs for containing more than one type of fiber-forming material wherein at least one reservoir contains an adhesive component, a hydrophilic component and an elastomeric component to produce at least one composite fiber;

a plurality of valves, each independently in communication with a reservoir;
and

a fiber-forming device selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ a spinnerette, a NGJ nozzle, and an electrospinning device, the fiber-forming device being in communication with said the valves, and wherein each fiber contains a hydrophilic component and an elastomeric component, and optionally contains an adhesive component.

14. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 13, additionally comprising a mixing chamber in communication with ~~said the~~ valves and ~~said the~~ fiber-forming device.

15. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the fiber-forming device is an electrospinning device, and additionally ~~comprising~~ comprises a power source in electrical communication with ~~said the~~ electrospinning device.

16. (new) The non-woven assembly of claim 1, wherein the adhesive component is located on, or in proximity to, the one or more fibers.

17. (new) A non-woven fiber assembly comprising one or more fibers wherein each fiber contains:

- a hydrophilic component;
- an elastomeric component; and
- an adhesive component.

18. (new) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 17, wherein the assembly is capable of adhering to a dry substrate and is not capable of adhering to a wet substrate.

19. (new) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 17, wherein the assembly forms a component of a medical dressing.

20. (new) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 17, wherein the adhesive component is selected from homo- and co-polymers of acrylates, silicones, polyvinylpyrrolidones, and mixtures thereof.

21. (new) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 17, wherein the elastomeric component is selected from polyurethanes, polyesters, polyanhydrides, polyamides, polyimides, and mixtures and co-polymers thereof.

22. (new) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 17, wherein the hydrophilic component is selected from linear poly(ethylenimine), grafted cellulose, poly(ethylene oxide), polyvinylpyrrolidone, polypropylene-oxides, polyurethanes, poly(hydroxyethyl methacrylate), and mixtures and co-polymers thereof.

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23. (new) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 17, wherein the composition of the one or more fibers at a first surface of the assembly is different from the composition of the one or more fibers at a second surface of the assembly.

24. (new) The non-woven fiber assembly of claim 17, wherein the at least one fiber has a diameter of between about 3 nanometers and about 3000 nanometers.